





## UN DISCUSSES NORTH AFRICA

New York. The UN Security Council has started to consider the dangerous situation that has been created in certain areas of the Mediterranean, the Middle East and Africa. In the wake of American military provocation against Libya, the Council has been convened at the latter country's request.

Opening the discussion, the Libyan representative A. Burwin stressed that large contingents of US naval forces are concentrated off Libyan coasts. US military planes make daily provocative flights near the Libyan border, clearly seeking a pretext for armed conflict. The present dangerous developments are part of the aggressive policy, carried out by the USA, with relation to Libya. Washington cannot get accustomed to the idea that it no longer has military bases on Libyan territory, and US monopolies no longer control her oil industry. "Cross interference into other countries' affairs is a typical

feature of American policy, stressed the Syrian representative, A. M. Al-Aissi. Washington arbitrarily announces a particular region of the world to lie within its "zone of vital interests". American arms are then hastily despatched to the region, followed by military "advisers" and the "rapid deployment force".

It is obvious that such actions, the USA's hegemonical claims to the role of "international policeman", are in glaring contradiction to the basic principles of the UN Charter, and to the United States' obligations as permanent member of the Security Council, said the Soviet representative, R. Ovinnikov. It is clear why the USA and other NATO countries voted against the Declaration on the Inadmissibility of Intervention in the Domestic Affairs of States adopted in 1981 by the UN General Assembly.



His favourite pastime.

Photo by Konstantin Rybnikov

## NAMIBIA: WHO IS DRAGGING OUT SETTLEMENT?

New York. The South African regime is going to infinite lengths to prevent the liberation of illegally occupied Namibia. In line with a Security Council decision, UN Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuellar has held talks with representatives of the "frontline" states and SWAPO, as well as with the "contact group" of five Western nations led by the USA, and is due to submit a report on the

outcome of the consultations to facilitate the early granting of independence to Namibia (before August 31).

This move was necessitated by a complete lack of progress on the Security Council Resolution No. 435 calling for an end to racist regime's occupation of Namibia and for the holding of genuinely free elections there, under international supervision. Pretoria, however, remains

radically opposed to the UN will. Its latest gambit, the decision to set up a "state council" to formulate a "constitution" for Namibia, is vigorously rebuffed by most UN members, and by the non-aligned nations which have issued a special statement condemning the racist ploy. It has been stressed in UN circles that the racist's procrastinating tactics are supported by the USA and Western powers acting as self-styled "go-betweens" in blinding about a settlement of the Namibian problem.

## Disturbances in the Dominican Republic

Panama. The Dominican Republic has been swept by a wave of protests against the reprisals unleashed in that country against the hard economic situation of the working people and the government's foreign policy which supports the Reagan administration's interventionist plans in the Caribbean. Towns and rural communities have become the scene of strikes, mass rallies and demonstrations condemning the

## MAJOR MANOEUVRES BY PENTAGON

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Local observers note that it is the first time that American manoeuvres in the region have been linked to such colossal financial expenditure and the "need" to build ramparts, barracks, defence facilities, bridges, roads and radar stations. For this reason, political circles in many Latin American countries see the Pentagon games as an act of intimidation by Washington in its preparations for armed aggression against Nicaragua and the guerrilla movement in El Salvador.

## Opposition to Reagan policy grows

New York. Five Democratic presidential candidates for the 1984 elections disagree with the Reagan administration's nuclear arms policy. When questioned by a public opinion poll, the Committee of 100 Action to halt the arms race from the state of Iowa, Senator John Glenn, Alan Cranston, Ernest P. Hollings, Gary Hart and former Vice-President Walter F. Mondale signed the letter to freeze American and Soviet nuclear weapons and stop the development, manufacture and testing of nuclear weapons and the means of their delivery.

Freezing American and Soviet weapons, Glenn noted, could be the first important step toward serious reductions in nuclear weapons stockpile and prevent the proliferation of such arms worldwide.

Asked whether the Soviet Union was superior to the USA in nuclear arms, which is the assertion of the Reagan administration, the candidates fully denied the idea. US policy

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